

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 13-25, with the following:

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pHR2 is a lentiviral transfer vector in which 124 base pairs (bp) of nef sequences upstream of the 3' LTR in pHR have been replaced with a polylinker both to reduce HIV-1 sequences and to facilitate transgene cloning. pHR2 was derived from pHR'-CMV-LacZ by replacing the 4.6 kilobase (kb) ClaI-StuI fragment with an 828 by ClaI-StuI fragment generated by PCR using pHR'-CMV-LacZ as the template and with the oligonucleotide primer, 5'CCATCGATCACGAGACTAGTC CTACGTATCCCCGGGGACGGGATCCGCGGAATTCGTTTAAGAC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 1) and the primer 5' TTATAATGTCAAGGCCTCTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:2) in a three part ligation with a 4.4 kb StuI-NcoI fragment and a 4.5 kb NcoI-ClaI fragment from pHR'-CMV-LacZ.